

POSTING SERVICES/COMMUNITY LIAISON UPDATE

Personnel Branch and the Posting Services Centre have a new look. Our bureau (ADD) has been eliminated, and we now report to the Director General, Personnel Administration (ABD), as the Posting Services and Community Liaison Division. Our acronym is now ABB. Responsibility for the Foreign Language Training Section on the second floor of Tower D has been delegated to the Head, Training and Development Programs (APDT). The new acronym for the Foreign Language Training Section is APDF.

We welcome two newcomers into our new division — Bill Devine, Counsellor in charge of the Department's Employee Assistance Program, and Marjorie Caverly, our Welfare Counsellor. They continue in their present location on the second floor of Tower D and have the same telephone numbers as before but new acronyms — ABBN and ABBW respectively.

Our new Director is Howard Singleton, who comes to us from the former Pacific Programs Division.

POSTING OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

Returning Employees

Outgoing and returning employees can reach Dina Martins at 992-2228.

Returning employees who did not receive a Re-Entry Kit before leaving their missions are invited to pick up any pertinent documentation at the Centre. "An Ottawa-Hull Posting", for example, is a useful guide to have on return to the National Capital after several years abroad.

Re-Entry Workshop

While most foreign service employees and their families anticipate a transition period of adaptation to a foreign culture, the difficulties of re-adapting to our own culture on return to Headquarters from a posting are sometimes unexpected, whether it's adjusting to working in a windowless cubicle at headquarters after commanding a magnificent view from an Embassy office, re-establishing support systems, or coping with the bewilderment of children trying to make new friends in a neighbourhood now unfamiliar to them.

To deal with these and similar concerns of those returning, Lynne Dubeau, our acting Training Officer, is planning a Re-Entry Workshop on Saturday, October 25. Details will be publicized in the Personnel Administrative Notices (PANs) and through our Direct Communication with Spouses program.

Pre-Posting Briefings

The last information sessions for employees going abroad were held September 10 and 11. Until next posting season, Dina Martins will arrange group and individual briefings as needed. In the meantime, evaluation is in progress, based on feedback from participants and presenters, with a view to planning "new and improved" briefings next season.

Documentation

As one posting season comes to a close and a new one begins, our concerns focus on the needs of employees and families pondering their posting preferences for the coming season. Up-to-date post reports and other documentation are the order of the day.

Several posts have now replied to our request in June for assistance and suggestions in updating our inventory. We hope to have heard from all posts in the coming weeks.

It is hoped we will have all post reports in an up-to-date bilingual format by the end of the year. The person to see for post reports, video cassettes, and other documentation is Roger Guindon, our Documentation Clerk (992-2224).

COMMUNITY LIAISON

Workshops for Spouses

The design of the fall workshop program focuses on the needs of foreign service spouses in the National Capital Region who are interested in entering or re-entering the workforce. The workshops scheduled are as follows:

- Career Life Planning (3-day workshop)
October 14, 21, & 28 (French)
October 15, 22, & 29 (English)
- Résumé Writing and Job Interview Skills (3-evening workshop)
November 3, 10, & 17 (French)
November 5, 12, & 19 (English)
- Creative Job Search Techniques (Ottawa-Hull)
November 24 (French)
November 26 (English)
- Entrepreneurship
December 1 (French)
December 3 (English)

For further information please contact Lynne Dubeau at 995-9751.

Direct Communication with Spouses

Details on Workshops for Spouses, the Re-Entry Workshop, Pre-Posting Workshops and other announcements as well as registration forms, etc., are communicated by letter addressed directly to spouses. It should be noted that as the employee's new address at a new place of duty is not included on a Posting Confirmation Form, our mailing list for communicating directly with spouses can be updated only on the basis of input from spouses. So, spouses, make sure your relocation checklist includes notifying ABB of your new address by completing and sending us the form on page 18.

Editor of *Liaison*

The "exigencies of the foreign service" this summer claimed the very competent and dedicated Editor of *Liaison*, Jo-Lynne Sutherland, who is now in Riyadh. The process of selecting a new Editor was initiated in June with an advertisement published through our Direct Communications with Spouses Program. The five excellent proposals reviewed in August presented a difficult choice for the Selection Committee, but we are now pleased to announce that the contract for editing *Liaison* has been awarded to Sylvie Gauvin. We congratulate the new Editor and hope we speak for our readers in assuring her of full co-operation and support from all of us. (See also the message from the Editor's desk on page 18.)

OUR FRONT COVER



Miss Liberty has just celebrated her one hundredth anniversary. *Liaison* wishes to mark this event by giving her the honour of the front page of this thematic issue "Highlighting the United States".

The Old Lady, which is 46 meters tall and weighs 225 tons, is the creation of the French sculptor Frédéric Bartholdi. The monument was erected under the supervision of Gustave Eiffel who was also the mastermind behind another famous monument: the tower which bears his name. France gave the statue to the American people in 1886 both as a symbol of its friendship and as a gift on the occasion of the first centenary of American independence.